

EXPRESS MAIL LABELSUBMISSION TO ENTER THE U.S.
NATIONAL PHASE UNDER
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P0758	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/02414	International filing date (day/month/year) 03.06.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 20.06.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC A61G5/06		
Applicant MILLS, Christopher James et Al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
- These annexes consist of a total of 12 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - II ☐ Priority
 - III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI ☐ Certain documents cited
 - VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 19.01.2004	Date of completion of this report 13.10.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Cametz, C Telephone No. +31 70 340-3434 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB 03/02414

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17):*

Description, Pages

1, 8-11, 13	as originally filed
4, 7, 12	received on 14.07.2004 with letter of 14.07.2004
2, 3, 5, 6	received on 05.10.2004 with letter of 05.10.2004

Claims, Numbers

1-21	received on 05.10.2004 with letter of 05.10.2004
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Drawings, Sheets

1/6-6/6	as originally filed
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2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

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EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/GB 03/02414**

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-21
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-21
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-21
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: WO 94/15567 A (LIGTVOET PRODUCTS BV ;VORST ARNOLDUS
MARINUS JOHANNE (NL)) 21 July 1994 (1994-07-21)

2. Document D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses (see page 2, lines 9 to 24, page 3, lines 3 to 5, page 4, lines 2 to 15, page 5, lines 10 to 28, and figures 1 to 3; the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A wheeled conveyance comprising a chassis, support means for a load mounted on the chassis, a suspension assembly mounted on the chassis and comprising suspension arms pivotally mounted on the chassis and extending in forward and rearward directions in the region of opposite sides of the chassis, each suspension arm having a wheel rotatably mounted at the free end thereof, and two separate spring means, one disposed in the region of each side of the chassis, the free ends of the forwardly and rearwardly extending suspension arms being arranged to tend to pivot towards each other by means of the two separate spring means being provided between, and acting on the forwardly and rearwardly extending suspension arms; and two shock absorber means separately cooperating between the chassis and each of the suspension arms extending in the forward direction,

from which the subject-matter of claim 1 differs in that

the two shock absorber means are provided in a substantially horizontal plane so as to limit and dampen tilting of the chassis relative to at least part of the suspension assembly under dynamic load conditions tending to produce such tilting whilst upward and downward movement of the wheels with the suspension arms is substantially uninhibited thereby in the absence of tilting motion of the chassis.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB 03/02414

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as providing an arrangement of chassis, suspension arms, spring means and shock absorber means, which is able more effectively to inhibit lateral movement of the chassis without inhibiting the vertical movement of the wheels with the suspension arms.

The present invention solves this problem (as claimed on claim 1) by providing two shock absorber means, separately cooperating between the chassis and each of the suspension arms extending in the forward direction, in a substantially horizontal plane.

Hence the subject-matter of claim 1 involves an inventive step and meets the requirements of Article 33(3) PCT.

3. Claims 2 to 21 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.
4. The wheeled conveyance disclosed in claims 1 to 21 is industrially applicable and therefore meets the requirements of Article 33(4)PCT.